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OCT - 9 2002

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
DEPT. OF THE TELECOM

The Federal Communications Commission
c/o Commission Secretary Marlene Dortch
445 12th Street SW
CY-B402
Washington, DC 20554

October 3, 2002

Re: Proceeding 02-306

Commissioners:

As you well know, this is a crucial time in the telecommunications industry. There is unprecedented disruption in financial and organizational stability and, at the same time, great momentum in innovation and deployment of new services and technologies. It is in this environment that the California Public Utilities Commission has finally issued a favorable decision endorsing SBC Pacific Bell's long distance application.

It is for the betterment of the telecommunication's industry, through increased competition and increased incentives to deploy new services, that I fully endorse and support SBC Pacific Bell's application, now pending before the commission. The FCC has already approved 271 applications from 23 states and it is time for California.

Approval of SBC Pacific Bell's application is a strong message to Californians and all Americans that competition is alive and well, despite the economic downturn. It states that we believe in and support businesses that adhere to sound business practices and regularly conduct due diligence. It is a message that we need and we need it now.

I urge you to approve SBC Pacific Bell's application for long distance and look forward to a renewed and invigorated telecommunications market in California.

Thank you,

Handwritten signature of Jeffrey Cole in cursive.
Jeffrey Cole
Director

Handwritten signature of Jeffrey Cole in cursive.